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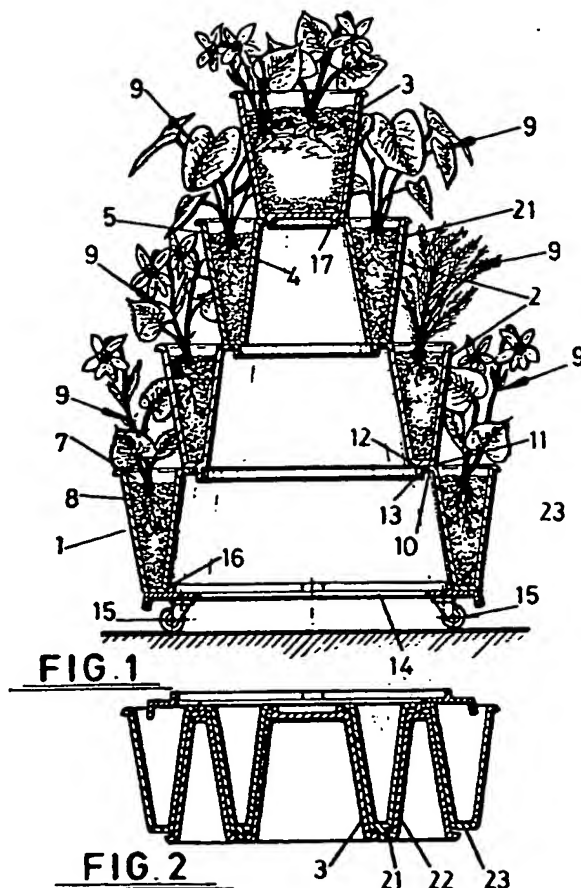
(71) Applicant  
Sunart Horticultural Products Limited (United Kingdom),  
Glenborrodale Farm, By Acharacle, Ardnamurchan,  
Argyll, Scotland

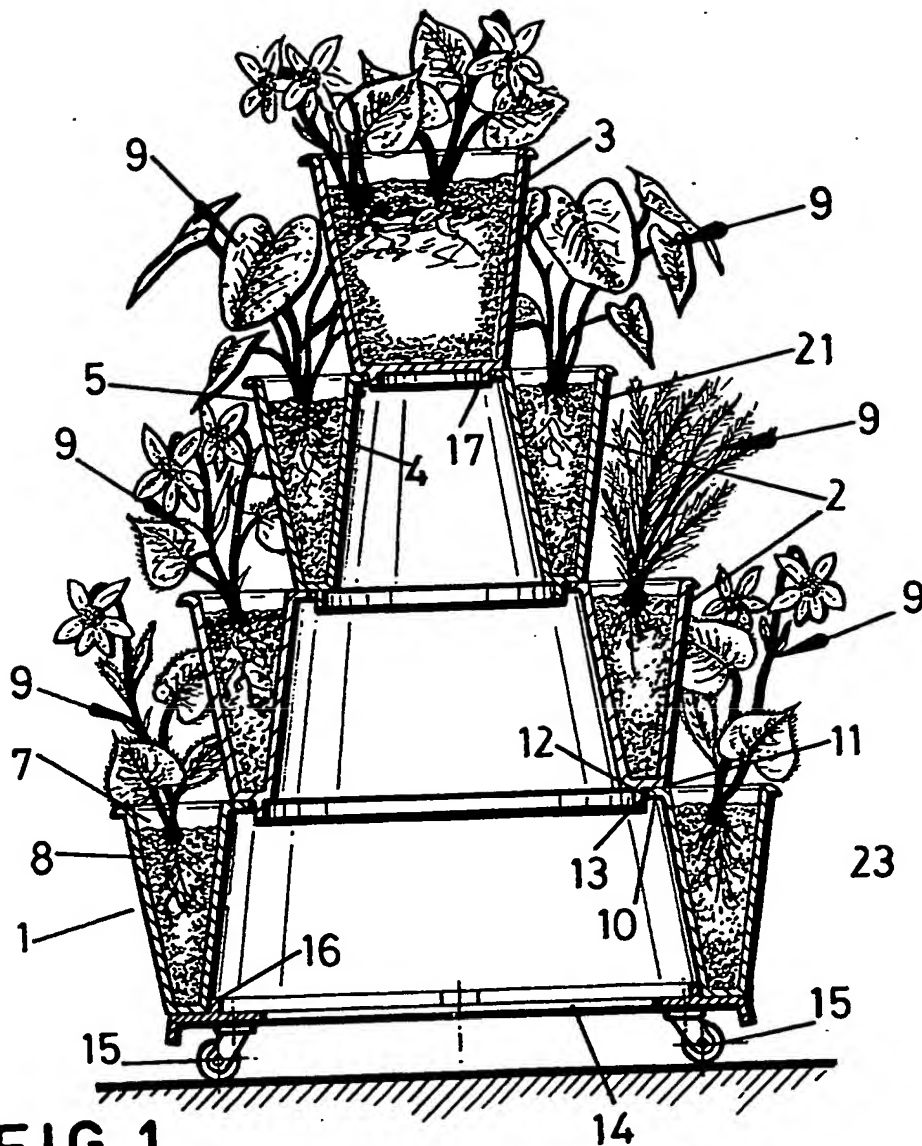
(72) Inventor  
Alan Craig Watson

(74) Agent and/or address for service  
Cruikshank & Fairweather, 19 Royal Exchange Square,  
Glasgow G1 3AE, Scotland

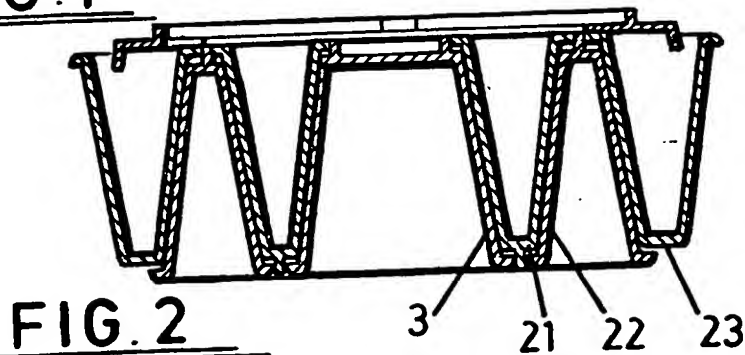
## (54) Terraced plant pots

(57) Annular plant pots are stacked one above another with a non-annular plant pot on top to form a terraced display. Each pot may have drainage holes in its base and the lowest pot may be supported on casters. The pots may be stored as shown in Fig. 2. The inner wall of each annular pot may be corrugated or fluted (Figs. 3 and 4). The pots may be of external circular, elliptical, oval or polygonal shape.

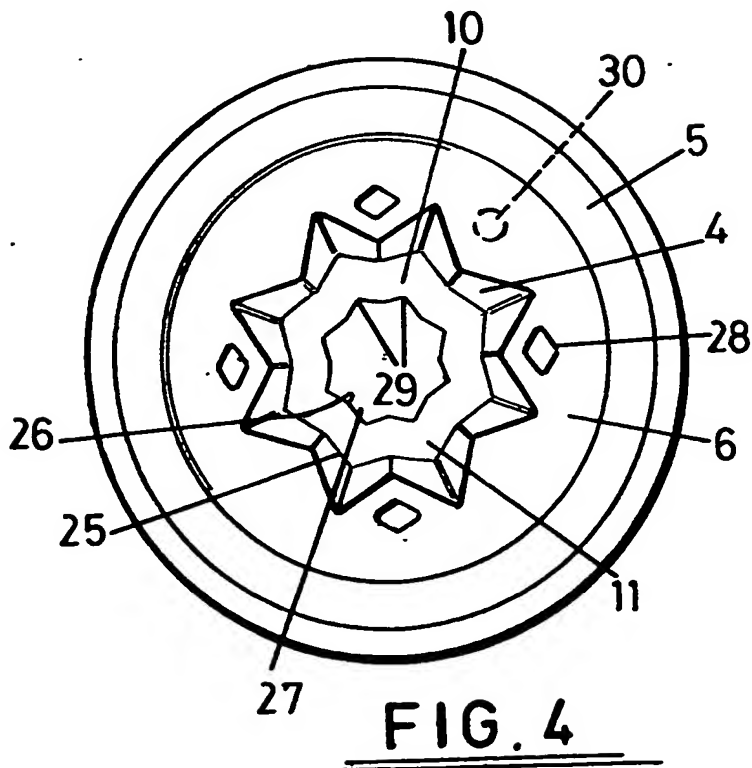
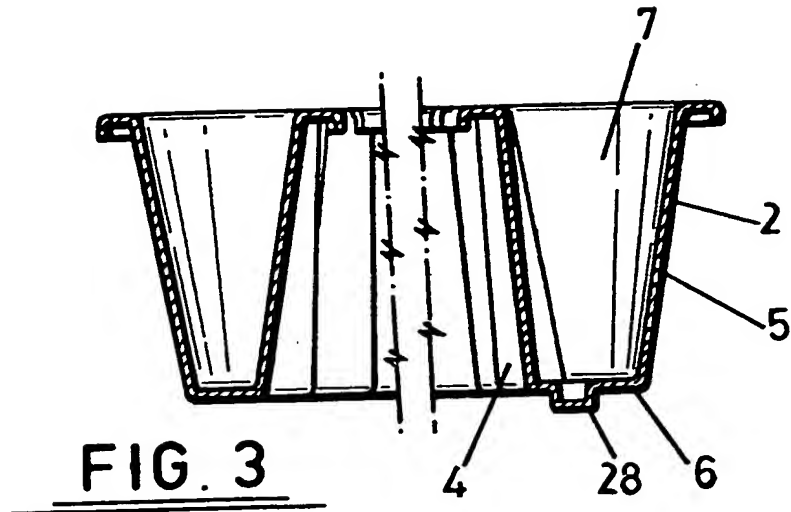




**FIG. 1**



**FIG. 2**



## SPECIFICATION

## Plant pot

The present invention relates to plant pots and  
5 plant pot assemblies.

In order to maximise utilisation of available floor  
space for the growing of plants there have previously  
been proposed plant pots in the form of generally  
cylindrical tubs which are filled with growth medium  
10 and have a plurality of apertures in the side at various  
levels through which the stems of plants rooted  
inside the tub can extend. Such tubs have a number  
of disadvantages though. On the one hand because  
they are more or less fully filled with soil they are  
15 relatively heavy and can tip over. On the other hand  
the plants are forced outwardly by the wall of the  
plant pot at an unnatural angle and are shaded by the  
vertically extending wall to an appreciable degree as  
well as by other plants at higher levels to some  
20 extent. It is an object of the present invention to avoid  
or minimise one or more of the above mentioned  
disadvantages and to provide a new form of plant pot  
with improved access and ease of use.

The present invention provides an annular plant  
25 pot.

According to the present invention the annular  
plant pot may be generally round including circular,  
elliptical or oval, or polygonal including triangular,  
square or rectangular, pentagonal or hexagonal.  
30 Preferably at least one of an upper portion of the  
radially inner side wall and a lower portion of the  
outer side wall or the base of said annular plant pot is  
provided with engagement means for engagement  
with the lower portion of the outer side wall or the  
35 base, or the upper portion of radially inner side wall,  
respectively of a further plant pot supported on or  
supporting, said annular plant pot, against  
substantial relative lateral displacement, said further  
plant pot being dimensioned to be generally of a  
40 smaller or larger, respectively, radial size than said  
annular plant pot.

Thus with an annular plant pot of the present  
invention it is possible to erect a plant pot assembly  
comprising a plurality of plant pots of the invention  
45 of progressively increasing radial size in a generally  
pyramidal form with their open ends arranged as a  
series of terraces. In general such an assembly would  
be topped with a non-annular plant pot and in a  
further aspect the present invention provides an  
50 assembly comprising at least one annular plant pot  
of the invention and a non-annular plant pot  
dimensioned relative to said annular plant pot so that  
the open end of said annular plant pot is disposed  
substantially radially outwardly of the open end of  
55 said non-annular plant pot.

In further aspects the present invention extends to  
a plant pot and to a plant pot assembly of the  
invention filled with a plant growth medium.

Further preferred features and advantages of the  
60 invention will appear from the following detailed  
description given by way of example of a preferred  
embodiment illustrated with reference to the  
accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a vertical sectional elevation through a  
65 plant pot assembly of the invention in use; and

Fig. 2 is a similar view of the assembly of Fig. 1 in a  
stowed configuration for transport or storage.

Fig. 1 shows a plant pot assembly 1 made up of a  
plurality of annular plant pots 2 of progressively  
70 reducing radial size stacked up on each other in a  
generally pyramidal configuration topped by a  
generally conventional form plant pot 3. Each of the  
annular plant pots 2 has inclined radially inner and  
outer side walls 4, 5 diverging away from each other  
75 in the direction away from the annular base 6 so as to  
define therebetween a generally trapezoidal section  
annular recess 7 for receiving plant growth medium 8  
such as soil, peat or the like in which may be grown  
plants 9 in substantially conventional manner.

The inner side wall 4 has in each case a radially  
inwardly extending flange 10 having an upper  
support surface 11 on which may be supported the  
base 6 of a further pot 2, 3, and a free edge 12 which  
engages a vertically extending flange 13 depending  
85 downwardly from the base 6 of said further pot 2, 3 so  
as to prevent relative lateral displacement between  
said annular pot 2 and said further pot 2, 3 supported  
thereon. Thus said vertical flange 13 and the radially  
inward flange 10 constitute respective engagement  
90 means at the base and at an upper portion of the  
inner side wall 4. As may be seen in Fig. 1 the largest  
radial size, i.e. bottom, annular plant pot 23 has a  
plain base which is supported on an annular base 14  
mounted on a plurality of castor wheels 15, the inner  
95 side wall 4, adjacent the pot base 6, engaging an  
upwardly extending vertical flange 16 to securely  
locate said pot 23 thereon. The topmost, non-  
annular, plant pot 3 also has a vertical depending  
flange 17 at its base 6 which engages the radially  
100 inward flange 10 of the topmost annular plant pot 21.

As may be seen in Fig. 2 the individual plant pots 2,  
3 of the assembly are formed and dimensioned so  
that they can be inter-nested in a stowed  
configuration having a depth approximately equal to  
that of just one pot. In more detail it will be noted that  
105 the pots are stacked with alternate ones reversed so  
that the topmost one 3 is inverted, the smallest  
annular one 21 placed over it in its normal attitude,  
the next one 22 inverted, and so on.

In the assembled configuration shown in Fig. 1 it  
may be noted that the plants are supported in a series  
of terraces providing an attractive display whilst  
allowing the plants to grow substantially upright and  
minimising shading of plants at the lower levels.  
115 Moreover the amount of growth medium used is kept  
to a minimum whilst maximising stability with the  
relatively large diameter base.

Figs. 3 and 4 show an annular pot of a modified  
embodiment, Fig. 3 being a partial diametrical  
vertical section of a modified annular pot, and Fig. 4 a  
120 plan view of the pot of Fig. 3. In Figs. 3 and 4 like parts  
corresponding to those in Figs. 1 and 2 are identified  
by like reference numerals.

In the modified embodiment the radially inner wall  
125 4 instead of being simply frusto-conical as is the  
outer wall 5, is corrugated or fluted in order to  
improve its load bearing capacity. As a result the  
inwardly extending annular flange 10 has a generally  
star-shaped outer periphery 25. The radially inner  
130 periphery 26 extends generally parallel to the outer

periphery 25 thereby in turn defining a generally star-shaped central aperture 27.

Also in place of the downwardly extending vertical flange of the first embodiment, a different form of engagement means comprising a plurality of angularly spaced apart downwardly extending generally lozenge-shaped bosses 28 is provided in the base 6. These bosses 28 locate in the corners 29 of the star-shaped aperture 27 in the radially outward support flange 10 of the next annular pot 2 below.

In other respects the form and use of the plant pots is generally similar to that of conventional ones. Thus, for example, drainage holes 30 may be provided in the base 6 if required.

#### CLAIMS

1. An annular plant pot.
2. A plant pot according to claim 1 which is generally round or polygonal in horizontal cross-section.
3. A plant pot according to claim 2 which is generally circular, elliptical, oval, triangular, square or rectangular, pentagonal, or hexagonal in horizontal cross-section.
4. A plant pot according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein at least one of an upper portion of the radially inner side wall and a lower portion of the outer side wall or the base of said annular plant pot is provided with engagement means for engagement with the lower portion of the outer side wall or the base, or the upper portion of radially inner side wall, respectively of a further plant pot supported on or supporting, said annular plant pot, against substantial relative lateral displacement, said further plant pot being dimensioned to be generally of a smaller or larger, respectively, radial size than said annular plant pot.

5. A plant pot according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the radially inner and radially outer walls are mutually inclined away from each other in the direction from the base to the upper open end of the pot.

6. A plant pot according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein at least said radially inner wall is corrugated or fluted.

7. A plant pot according to claim 6 which has in its base a plurality of downwardly depending projections formed and arranged for engagement in the corners of a polygonal central aperture defined by an annular flange extending radially inwardly from the upper end of the radially inner wall.

8. An annular plant pot substantially as described hereinbefore with particular reference to Figs. 1 and 2 or Figs. 3 and 4 of the accompanying drawings.

9. A plant pot assembly comprising a plurality of plant pots according to any one of claims 1 to 8 which pots are of progressively increasing radial size, said pots being assembled in a generally pyramidal form with their open ends arranged as a series of terraces.

10. A plant pot assembly comprising at least one annular plant pot according to any one of claims 1 to 8 and a non-annular plant pot dimensioned relative to said annular plant pot so that the open end of said annular plant pot is disposed substantially radially outwardly of the open end of said non-annular plant pot.

11. A plant pot assembly substantially as described hereinbefore with particular reference to Figs. 1 and 2 or Figs. 1 and 2 as modified by Figs. 3 and 4, of the accompanying drawings.

12. A plant pot or plant pot assembly according to any one of the preceding claims which pot or pot assembly is filled with a plant growth medium.

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